

uncommon constituent sugars with free amino, carboxyl and phosphonate groups. Polysaccharide A (PS A) has a tetrasaccharide repeating unit with a balanced positively charged amino group and negatively charged carboxyl group. Polysaccharide B has a hexasaccharide repeating unit, including an unusual 2-amino ethylphosphonate substituent containing a free amino group and negatively charged phosphate group. The galacturonic acid residue contains an additional negatively charged carboxyl group. Ionic interaction between the two saccharide chains tightly links polysaccharides A and B into the high molecular weight CPC complex. The complex capsular motif is a conserved trait for all strains of *B. fragilis* that have thus far been examined.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 35, line 28, with the following paragraph:

B. fragilis NCTC 9343 and ATCC 23745 were originally obtained from the National Collection of Type Cultures (London, England) or the American Type Culture Collection (Bethesda, MD). Microorganisms were stored at -80°C in peptone-yeast or brain heart infusion broth until used, and grown anaerobically as previously described. Pantosti et al. *Infect Immun* 59:2075 (1991). The CPC from *B. fragilis* NCTC 9343 or ATCC 23745 was isolated by hot phenol/water extraction and subsequent purification of PS A performed as previously described. Tzianabos, A et al. *J Biol Chem* 267:18230 (1992).

Please replace the heading which appears on page 36, line 29, with the following heading:

T Cell Activation by PS A Depends on Charge Motif

Please enter the new corrected drawings, corresponding to Figures 4, 5, and 9, filed herewith.

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-146 were pending and that claims 37-146 have been withdrawn from consideration. Applicants note that claims 20-36, 38-60, 62, 64, 66, 68-100, 102, 105, 107, 109-110, 112-126, 128-137 and 139-146 were previously cancelled by preliminary amendment dated September 13, 2000. However, contrary to the Examiner's statement that the preliminary amendment has been entered, it appears that the